The Chicago Tribune.

VOL. 24. CHICAGO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1871. NO. 190.

WASHINGTON.

Apprehensions Felt Regarding the Fate of the San Domingo Expedition.

The Navy Yard Removal Bill Discussed in the House.

The Present Navy Yard System Morally, Politically and Financially Considered.

Census Statistics Showing the Increase of the Colored Population at the South.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Senator WILSON, from behind the Ways and Means committee, to-day, for the purpose of consulting the members thereof with reference to the passage at an early day of some public buildings. He stated that he was entertaining no political views himself, or on the part of the country making that inquiry, but that the character he erected, and addressing that the necessity for these buildings was imperative. He had, however, proposed just then, what he would recommend, but would intend a bill to that effect to the committee, expressing his views. The committee, he was aware, believed that in some sections of the country, appropriations were by no means necessary to remain old buildings or to erect new ones, but did not feel prepared to inaugurate the policy of erecting new ones. The committee also agreed to recommend that an appropriation of $100,000 be made in Maine, Portland to continue his explorations, and pay one to Captain Hall, for the same purpose.

THE SAN DOMINGO EXPEDITION.

Grave apprehensions are beginning to be entertained here with regard to the safety of the Tennessee, which conveyed the San Domingo Commission from New York. She has now been out seven days out. No intelligence has been received of her since she left New York. A report was received from New York, to-day, saying that the Tennessee was out, and that all of her boats were lost. The story gained rapid circulation in both Houses and Navy Department, and created considerable excitement. While inclined to believe that the report is without foundation, the fact that it originated from a source which has been reliable, and has been confirmed by the fact that the Tennessee has been out seven days out, is causing special attention to the matter. The President himself is very anxious. The vessel is valued at $1,000,000, and that all of her passengers, numbering 150 persons, are valuable to the country, as the general impression at the foundation of political system, that taxation and representation are inseparable.

THE NAVY YARD BILL.

Mr. Rice's Education bill came up in the House to-day, and the gentleman read rather tedious speech on the subject, in favor of the bill. Mr. Arnell, of Tennessee, was in favor of the bill, was delivered in the tone of a funeral oration. Mr. Hoar was in favor of it to a much extent. Mr. McNeil, of Illinois, opposed the bill, on the ground that it proposed interference with the sacred rights of property. At the close of Mr. McNeil's speech, Mr. Hoar addressed to make some amendments for the accommodation of the House, when the Democratic side was allowed to speak. Mr. Hoar then moved that the House adjourn, pending the special order of the day, and it was accordingly adjourned.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS.

Interesting statistics from the counties returned for 1870 that of Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia, in the aggregate, $1,575,477,000. The counties in Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia, in the aggregate, $1,575,477,000. The counties in Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia, in the aggregate, $1,575,477,000.

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Mr. DAVIS offered a resolution authorizing the Committee on Appropriations to send for persons and papers in connection with the reference to the appropriation of the contract of Benjamin Wilson for the transportation of mail between Memphis and Vicksburg. Adopted.

Mr. COX presented a petition against the Sunday Mail Service. Referred.

Mr. COX introduced a bill to prevent the Secretary of War from paying the claim of Messrs. Sargent & Co.; and a bill to prevent the payment of subsidy bills to any New York city against the passage of subsidy bills to any New York city against the passage of subsidy bills to any New York city against the passage

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1871.

A FIRST-RATE VETO.

The House of Representatives, a week or more ago, passed a joint resolution which was an outrage upon justice and public honesty. The persons who had contracts with the government, for building steam machinery for vessels during the war, united in an appeal to Congress for the profits they would have made had not the cost of the materials advanced. The Senate, where these claims do not, as a general thing, receive that scrutiny they deserve, passed a bill authorizing the Treasury Department to pay the contractors an additional percentage. The House Committee on Claims, however, refused to report the bill, and after a long struggle a joint resolution was passed, by the terms of which the contractors to go before the Court of Claims and prove any losses they may have sustained because of any changes in plans or delays by the government. Under this law these losses were proved and paid. The law, however, in express terms prohibited any allowance for losses sustained by the advance in the cost of material. The contractors have since then been at work to have the prohibition repealed. In the Senate, Mr. Drake, of Missouri, reported a resolution repealing the prohibition, and, before he resigned, the Senate, on his motion, passed the joint resolution. In the House it rested on the Speaker's table. If referred to a committee, it would be lost, so, just after Mr. Dawes had exposed the dishonest resolution passed by the House without debate by the Corporating Act, a motion was made to take up the joint resolution and pass it without debate or reference to a committee. The lobby had its forces ready, and the joint resolution was passed, sending all these claims again to the Court of Claims, of which court, in the meantime, Mr. Drake had become Chief Justice.

Fortunately for the country, the President informed himself of the true character of the bill. He saw in it not only an unjust principle, but a precedent that would enable every other person who had supplied the army, or navy, or civil service, or who had been employed in any capacity, to apply to the appropriating for the advance in prices. So on Tuesday he returned the joint resolution to the Senate vetoed. For this timely act the President deserves the thanks of the country.

DAMS AND LOCKS.

Another opportunity for relieving the burning sufferers of the nation is about to be afforded, in the shape of an appropriation of some $20,000,000 for a system of inland water navigation by the Ohio River. The details of the plan have just been developed in the report of W. Miller Roberts, a civil engineer in the government service, transmitted to the House of Representatives, at the request of that body, by the Secretary of War.

Mr. Roberts thinks it would be a fine thing for the country along the Ohio, and especially for Pittsburgh, if the General Government would build for them a series of locks and dams, the effect of which, if Mr. Roberts' cyphering prove correct, would be to place the river in a state of chronic flood, and facilitate navigation during periods of drought and low water. This happy thought of Mr. Roberts could, according to his estimates, be put into execution by an expenditure of exactly $23,777,623 and no odd cents; but, with some reasons for the uncertainties and contingencies usually made with special reference to getting appropriations through, and are, accordingly, gauged at what the government will stand at one dose, rather than at what the job will cost, it may be assumed that the thirty-two locks and dams and the six-ty-six pairs of locks which Mr. Roberts proposes to build, or, rather, to have the government build, would cost a round $40,000,000 before they were finished. To the yearly interest on this sum ($2,400,000) would have to be added another million (Mr. Roberts owns up to $750,000) for expenses of keeping up and working the sixty-six sets of locks and dams. But this is the climax; and, with this terrible liability to sudden and torturing death, the doomed passengers are imprisoned in cars from which, when the crash comes, and the liquid fire wraps them in its folds, escape is impossible.

Such seems to have been the naked fact, without exaggeration and without palliation, in the accident,—if it can be called such,—two days ago, at New Hamburg. The petroleum-laden car was running without one or more of the usual and otherwise ordinary regulations, through hundreds of miles of country, like an unlighted mine which any accident might, at any moment, light into sudden eruption, to spread, at a hundred given points, at stations, in cities, in towns, in villages, or in passing trains, disaster, and agony, and death. The managers took the chances that there would be no accident—and no explosion; they took the chances, also, that, if it should occur, it would be where no loss of life would follow; then, locking up some of the human creatures in a car whence they could find no outlet when the dire disaster came, they sent them out to terrible and certain death if so be the chance should be against them. And it was the old, old story of the prison-house came together at the right moment, when the one, being a volcano, the other would become a charnel-house, and a heap of corpses of strong men, and of women, and tender children, ingulfed upon the wayside. The horrors of a battle-field we accept, even while we shudder, because they are the inevitable result of conditions we daily, acutely create with that intention; but slaughter of this sort, we cry out against with something of the poignancy of a personal sorrow, and a personal wrong, because it comes as a heedless and a needless torture, born of selfish pecuniary greed, and of reckless disregard of right and of life, and inflicted upon those who had bargained, not for horrible death and torture, but for safety and for ease.

But where is the remedy? What is mockery the question seems, when we remember the more or two of freedmen where this Horror has stalked in and stands ghastly, and terrible, and immovable, upon the hearth-stone! The Beloved, who will be known there no more forever! He dead, in that burnt-up ruin, their "dear flesh" charred and crisped to cinders! What remedy? What exoneration, rather, do the men deserve who have wrought such woe and made possible such a calamity? Legislation may, perhaps, do something to guard against an exact repetition of another like it; but the chief hope must be that it will deepen the popular sense of how much there is that is wrong in these irresponsible, grasping railroad monopolies, and hasten the time when some way shall be discovered to create a system in which the people, their lives, and their rights, shall be first, and corporations second.

Somebody has taken the pains to telegraph all over the country that General Pleasanton, since he has been Commissioner of Internal Revenue, has performed more of his predecessors which, in effect, discontinues about $10,000,000 of taxes heretofore collected under sharp interpretations of the law. For this, it is insisted that the Commissioner should be removed. We hope that the Commissioner will go on in his good work. If he has practically abolished ten millions of dollars of taxes, and relieved that much money to the people, he is, to that extent, a benefactor. All taxes collected in excess of the needful revenue of the government, are in the nature of confiscation. The policy of the Internal Revenue Office, heretofore, has been to draw the last drop of blood with men, or as men usually display in carrying any enterprise in which they desire to interest women. Unquestionably, the first and main object was the women-suffragists must be to obtain the support of the women of the country generally. In this they have failed. It would be well for them to consider why. A partial cause may be found in the fact that they have never worked in a manner to enlist the representative women either of taste, refinement, and social influence, on the one hand, or of piety and philanthropy on the other. Women are guided by fashion as largely as men by habit. They are not fond of the stump speakers of their own sex. Not that they question the weight of the argument, or the abstract justice of the claim, but the whole movement is coarse and indelicate to their view. It is neither fashionable nor religious, and its most logical leaders denounce both religion and fashion to make way for it.

While the women-suffragists are more popular with men than with women, yet gentlemen equally regard them with an interest which is without admiration. For infinitely more men, as well as women, are guided by taste than by a sense of abstract justice.

Hence it results that, when a female orator has settled the question beyond cavil, that, according to the Declaration of Independence, women have the abstract right to vote, not an inch of ground has been made toward woman suffrage.

According to the same authority a woman has the right to ride through Chicago at noon-day naked, or to commit a thousand other eccentricities, but she is not likely to do so. The truth is, that the argument that one has the abstract right to do a thing is one of the least influential that can be addressed to the human mind, masculine or feminine; the strongest being to show that it is in accordance with established usage and good taste.

The woman suffrage party must cultivate the good will and aid of a far broader and more practical class of minds than have hitherto usually given them favor. To this end, they must drop their abstract discussions, and must show to the satisfaction of "common sense" that, first, that the use of the ballot by women will not lower the standard of true womanly refinement; and, secondly, that it will promote important reforms, beneficial to all true women and men. Paradoxical as the statement may seem, these convictions amount to nothing when spouted from a platform. To become effective, they must be sung, danced, preached and worn. For the great majority of women would at once move out of the world as out of the fashion. And it happens to be in the fashion to sing, dance, dress, and go to church, and out of the fashion to attend the Women's Rights Convention.

THE MINE AND THE PRISON.

Some years ago—we do not remember the exact number—a train of cars going from Paris to Versailles took fire by some accident. The speed of the flames was exceedingly rapid, and as the doors of the cars were locked, in accordance with the French rules, there was no possibility of escape, and numbers were burnt to death. The occurrence described as horrible; the shocking details excited a universal cry of indignation in this country, not only at the loss of life and the tortures of the victims, but at the despotic rule which locked people up in a railroad train and took away from them the only possible chance of escape in case of fire or other accident.

More recently, in England, but several years ago, a passenger train came into collision with a freight train loaded with petroleum, and in the crash the petroleum, by some means, caught on fire; the flames spread to the passenger cars; a number of persons, unable to extricate themselves from the wreck, were burnt to death, and many were so utterly consumed that it was impossible even to identify their charred remains.

When the details of these painful catastrophes were published in this country, we thanked God that we managed things better than they do in either France or England; that the soulless locked people up in cars and deprived them of their only chance of escape in case of accident, nor roasted them alive by our careless carriage of dangerous combustibles and explosive materials; but, with some respect for the rights of travellers, and some regard for human life, we left all avenues of escape open in case of a railroad collision, and guarded against men being hurried into eternity without a moment's warning, and by the most agonizing and terrible of all deaths.

But it seems we have changed since then. Now, our railroad officials run carloads of petroleum in tanks over thick roads without any precautions against catastrophe, when explosion or conflagration is almost as likely to occur as if they carried gunpowder in open vans behind locomotives loaded to the chimneys; and, with this terrible liability to sudden and torturing death, the doomed passengers are imprisoned in cars from which, when the crash comes, and the liquid fire wraps them in its folds, escape is impossible.

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Making collections of postage stamps is a mania with some people, and their sons since, about 8 or 10 years, are disposed to play truant, and then to school is shackles, locked closely like criminals in prison cells. Now, if the Post-Office Department patrons of the school accord instead this fact, they immediately send for their children, and look them up, and the truants are brought back to their studies the two boys gone to the school and removed the shackles, the school would soon have been broken up.

—A San Jose, California, paper reports that a well-dressed man has been in its vicinity, for several days, in possession of an envelope, addressed by a subscriber at Quincy. The envelope has been the frank of "J. F. Benjamin, M. C.," and was the envelope of a letter to the bank, at Hannibal, Mo., which the Hon. Mr. Benjamin runs when at home. It is mailed at Shelbina, and is doubtless one of a lot surreptitiously obtained from Benjamin by the Congressman, by Benjamin, the banker.

Mr. Francis Bret Harte is a writer who, by discovering a few veins of precious metals, and working it with improved tools, has made himself the most popular writer in America. Moreover, the people, in selecting him as their favorite, have made a choice which the critics of two continents endorse and ratify. Mr. Harte is now visiting friends in this city, and we are glad to say that movements are on foot by which, it is hoped, Mr. Harte may be induced to settle in Chicago at his future home.

THE NORTHWEST.

ILLINOIS.

The stockholders of the Grafton & Alton Railroad Company have voted for an immediate survey of the proposed line of this road.

—A Versailles prophet predicts that on July 4, 1871, a child will be born in Quincy who will be able to speak in public at the age of 3 years.

—The Rev. Dr. Forrester has been induced to withdraw his resignation of the presidency of the Universalist Church of Aurora. He now receives a salary of $4,000.

—In Ottawa, on Wednesday of last week, a son, 7 years old, of H. Greeley, in the absence of the parents took a revolver from the mantel-piece, and while playing with it, shot his brother, a few years older, through the head. The ball entered the left temple, passing fully two inches transversely in the head. The little sufferer was alive at last accounts, though but small hopes were entertained of his recovery.

IOWA.

A man was robbed of $1,600 in Sioux City, on Wednesday night, of the worst sort. He was drunken asleep in a saloon. The *Journal* says he holds office in a neighboring county.

—Miss Ella Underwood, who was decoyed, by popular vote at a fair, to be the most beautiful young lady in Fort Dodge, has a thorn on her head, and a thousand dollars to invest in it. Her glitter of Kitty's eyes caused his hand to trestle, and in a second Kitty's head reported into the bosom of artery he had secured. The *Republican* says the wound bleeds so profusely that it is feared the fair lady will be impaired.

—The death of Louis Brant, in Lockridge Township, Jefferson County, on Monday evening, occurred in a singular manner. He was at a revival meeting, and arose to address the people. He spoke with great earnestness on the subject of religion, and, saying, "I have a few more words to say in heaven, and am going to meet them," he fell to the floor, and, when he was raised, was found to be dead. Mr. Brant was 66 years of age.

—The Ottumwa *Courier* says:

"An old gentleman named Jonson, residing near Sharpsburg, some eighteen miles east of us, was recently engaged in counting a team for a gentleman a short distance in the country. One day a legal gentleman called on the old man, and with some acquaintance, sought him (Jonson), information relative to the location of land he had come to sell him the town that he had taken in an exchange valued at $10,000,000 in England, and that he had all the proof, but needed his presence to identify himself. Jonson told him that he could not go now, but would go in the spring. The old gentleman replied, 'I can't go now, I've got this barn to finish.' 'That's all right,' said the agent, 'I'll help you finish.' They accordingly went to the barn, and the $10,000 man went till the job is completed.

—Among the graduates of Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, at the recent commencement, is a colored woman, Miss Mary Jane Patterson, who is said to be the first colored woman who ever graduated at any college in the United States. She is a native of Washington City, and has been a teacher in the colored schools of that city.

—Chicago boasts of a young lady who is a professional bootblack. She has opened the establishment at the terminus of the Fortune & Madison Railroad with the railroad system of Illinois, at Freeport.

—The Rev. Dr. Forrester, the prominent Universalist minister who has recently resigned the pastorate of the Church of Aurora, has now received a salary of $4,000.

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—Mr. Merrill, who sustained heartrending bereavement from the Kenosha fire, was in South Bend, Ind., and had scarcely arrived at home before the beautiful news. The parson was cool the message to his room found her sitting there looking out of the window. Merrill, of his alone and gleeful, and was surprised in the affirmative, and the man accepted accordingly. "Your eyes and cheeks are burned out!" This intersection nearly cost Mr. Merrill his life. He became indignatio, and remained so for an hour or more.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The St. Joseph *Union* of the 4th says:

"At Savannah, a few days since, the latter had been visited by a man who had with him a child who would be a very great favor if he would go with him and play with the child. He stated to the mother that he had a very sick child, and that it would be a very great favor if he would go with him and play with the child. The child in regard to the little darling before it would part with it. The man promised to bring the child back, and accordingly went off in the company of his cage. The child was gone about two hours, when the parents were made aware that the child had been taken away. They then learned that the man had left town. They now fear he is murdered. Everything is organized with the exception that the child is not found. The prisoner at once left out of the county, and the father followed him with the child in his arms until he reached the west bank of the river, where he left the child over, and continued the chase with a revolver in hand. Taylor has failed to come up with the man, having been left behind by his horse. The prisoner gained on him and left his cage."

OHIO.

A man in Columbus died of too much laughing, in a dentist's chair, last week.

MISCELLANEOUS.

There were 400 deaths from yellow fever in New Orleans last year.

—Of the 1,391 residents of New Orleans who died last year, twenty were over 100 years old.

—There are recently on exhibition at Binghamton, New York, a turkey that turned the scales at 50 pounds.

—Some naughty boy in Penn Yan, the other day, transformed an old, double-headed horse, belonging to a neighbor, into a Siamese twin, by a sign which read: "Oats wanted; inquire within."

—In a mine not removed to Indiana, and was appointed a cadet at West Point. He graduated from that State in 1829. On July 1, 1846, he was appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Third Artillery, being promoted in March, 1847, to First Lieutenant. He was brevetted Captain for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Buena Vista, and Major for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Chapultepec. He resigned his commission in March, 1855. At the breaking out of the rebellion he was appointed Brigadier General of the Texas State troops, and subsequently assigned to the command of the Department of Texas, with the rank of Major General. He occupied this position until May, 1862, when he was relieved at his own request, and ordered to report to Richmond, where he was assigned to the command of the District of Georgia, with headquarters at Macon, where he died on Sunday, at the age of 79 years

THE WOOL INTEREST.

The Next Exposition of Manufactured Goods to be Held in St. Louis.

Election of Association Officers—Free Trade and Protection Resolutions.

MORNING SESSION.

The Woollen Manufacturers' Association of the West, Northwest, and South held in fourth session meeting in the Tremont House, yesterday morning. George L. Rosen, President, occupied the Chair, and Augustus C. Schoonmaker acted as Secretary.

DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE.

The following named gentlemen were in attendance: J. W. Shim, Lockport, Ill.; Arthur B. Barber, Charles Stark, G. G. Dun, T. C. Chase, Chicago; Saml. G. Gregg, Tiffin, O.; C. C. Hubbell, Wm. Bagley, Wm. Bagley, Jr., Wm. Bagley, 3d, Wm. H. Bagley, Wheatfield, Ind.; J. R. Thomas, Rockford, Ill.; Jas. P. Chapman, Milwaukee, Wis.; Jas. P. Chapman, Jr., Milwaukee, Wis

SUFFRAGE.

The "Short-Haired Women and Long-Haired Men" in Council.

Third Annual Convention of the Illinois Woman's Suffrage Association.

The Customary Quantity of Speeches and Resolutions Perpetrated.

A "Daughter of Science" Refuses to be Put Down by a Man.

MORNING SESSION.

The third annual convention of the Illinois Woman's Suffrage Association held its first session yesterday morning in Farwell Hall, a meagre attendance and a funereal solemnity being the most prominent characteristics for the greater part of the forenoon.

Judge Bradwell called the meeting to order.

The proceedings opened with prayer by REV. J. S. HOLT.

Judge Bradwell then read the Secretary's report, which was a record of the proceedings of the last annual convention, and which was, on motion, adopted.

Mr. Rachael moved an amendment to the minutes in a resolution, making it read, "the women of Illinois now be free to vote," which was agreed to, on original motion "vote as well as men."

Mrs. Jane G. Swisshelm, of Pittsburgh, came the next, but she thought it fair to say that she was a married woman, and that her husband had given her no opinion nor advice to herself. She had fought her battle single-handed, and had won it, and she was now a widow. (Groans.) Practice a man living on his wife's property, and he will vote, do this, and that for her, and will not even speak to her. (Laughter.) She was a widow, and had been for years, and she had fought her battle for the rights of women and women's rights. (Applause.)

A committee of five on business, was, on the motion, appointed by the Chair as follows: Mr. Rachael, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. Babcock, and Mrs. Wells.

The Chair announced the committee on nomination of officers as follows: Mr. Hanford, Mrs. Bradwell, Mrs. Jenny Hunt, Mrs. Loomis, and Mrs. Spencer.

MRS. C. M. HOE was then called upon to speak upon the convention. He deprecated that it had not been held in connection with the suffrage meeting in Washington, and that it was not in the city and its interests. Suffrage would not be a party question, and that the women of the land of the free and brave would bring a millennium to pass. He did not believe in woman's rights.

MRS. Underhill said he thought the meeting was called to press all influences against the male portion of the community, and those who were in favor of suffrage. He did not believe in the right of suffrage.

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MR. Rachael moved an amendment to the minutes in a resolution, making it read, "the women of Illinois now be free to vote," which was agreed to, on original motion "vote as well as men."

MRS. JANE G. SWISSHELM, of Pittsburgh, came the next, but she thought it fair to say that she was a married woman, and that her husband had given her no opinion nor advice to herself. She had fought her battle single-handed, and had won it, and she was now a widow. (Groans.) Practice a man living on his wife's property, and he will vote, do this, and that for her, and will not even speak to her. (Laughter.) She was a widow, and had been for years, and she had fought her battle for the rights of women and women's rights. (Applause.)

A committee of five on business, was, on the motion, appointed by the Chair as follows: MR. Rachael, MRS. WILSON, MRS. LOOMIS, MRS. BABCOCK, and MRS. WELLS.

The Chair announced the committee on nomination of officers as follows: MR. Hanford, MRS. BRADWELL, MRS. JENNY HUNT, MRS. LOOMIS, and MRS. SPENCER.

MRS. C. M. HOE was then called upon to speak upon the convention. He deprecated that it had not been held in connection with the suffrage meeting in Washington, and that it was not in the city and its interests. Suffrage would not be a party question, and that the women of the land of the free and brave would bring a millennium to pass. He did not believe in woman's rights.

MRS. Underhill said he thought the meeting was called to press all influences against the male portion of the community, and those who were in favor of suffrage. He did not believe in the right of suffrage.

MRS. Rachael followed in opposition to the movement. She was not a believer in woman's suffrage, because, he thought, it was their province to be subject, and their business to mind their own affairs. He was opposed to the movement.

MRS. Bradwell followed in opposition to the movement. She was not a believer in woman's suffrage, because, he thought, it was their province to be subject, and their business to mind their own affairs. He was opposed to the movement.

MRS. Underhill said he thought the meeting was called to press all influences against the male portion of the community, and those who were in favor of suffrage. He did not believe in the right of suffrage.

MRS. Rachael